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A1  
Serial No. 08/697,272, entitled TAMPER-EVIDENT CONTAINER CLOSURE  
filed August 21, 1996, and now U.S. Patent No. 5,711,443 issued  
January 27, 1998.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-30.

Please add the following new claims into prosecution:

Sub D7  
31. (New) A tamper evident closure for a container having  
a neck defining an open upper end and a annular shoulder extending  
about the neck in a close proximity to the open upper end thereof,  
the tamper evident closure comprising:

a sealing cap attachable to the neck in a manner  
enclosing the open upper end thereof;

A2  
a tamper evident cap cooperatively engaged to the sealing  
cap and including a selectively fracturable parting region  
which, when fractured, allows at least a portion of the tamper  
evident cap to be separated and removed from the sealing cap;  
and

a closure retaining section coupled to the sealing cap  
and advanceable over the shoulder of the container upon the  
attachment of the sealing cap to the neck thereof;

the tamper evident closure being sized and configured  
relative to the container such that the movement of sealing  
cap away from the shoulder subsequent to the attachment of the

*Cont*  
~~sealing cap to the neck results in the engagement of the closure retaining section to the shoulder and the fracture of the parting region.~~

*A2*  
~~232.~~ (New) The tamper evident closure of Claim ~~31~~<sup>1</sup> wherein the tamper evident cap is cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap via interengaging serrations which are formed on the tamper evident cap and the sealing cap.

~~3~~ ~~33.~~ (New) The tamper evident closure of Claim ~~31~~<sup>1</sup> wherein the tamper evident cap includes a removable tear strip which defines the parting region thereof.

~~4~~ ~~34.~~ (New) The tamper evident closure of Claim ~~33~~<sup>3</sup> wherein:  
the tear strip of the tamper evident cap extends between upper and lower cap portions thereof; and

the tamper evident cap is sized and configured relative to the sealing cap such that the removal of the tear strip therefrom allows for the separation and removal of the upper cap portion from the sealing cap.

~~5~~ ~~35.~~ (New) The tamper evident closure of Claim ~~34~~<sup>4</sup> wherein the closure retaining section is formed on the lower cap portion of the tamper evident cap.

*Sub 27*  
~~36. (New) A tamper evident closure for a container having an externally threaded neck defining an open upper end and an annular shoulder extending about the neck in close proximity to the open upper end thereof, the tamper evident closure comprising:~~

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A2  
an internally threaded sealing cap threadably engageable to the neck in a manner enclosing the open upper end thereof, the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck being facilitated by the rotation of the sealing cap in a first direction;

a tamper evident cap cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap in a manner wherein the rotation of the sealing cap facilitates the rotation of the tamper evident cap, the tamper evident cap including a selectively fracturable parting region which, when fractured, allows at least a portion of the tamper evident cap to be separated and removed from the sealing cap; and

a closure retaining section coupled to the sealing cap and advanceable over the shoulder of the container upon the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck thereof;

the tamper evident closure being sized and configured relative to the container such that the rotation of the sealing cap in a second direction opposite the first direction subsequent to the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck results in the engagement of the closure retaining section to the shoulder and the fracture of the parting region.

737. (New) The tamper evident closure of Claim 36<sup>6</sup> wherein the tamper evident cap is cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap